

What does a Choreographer do?

19% MATCH?

Would you make a good Choreographer? Take our career test to find out how you match with this and over 800 other careers.

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Avg. US Salary	\$49,898	\$
Employment	6,900	👤
Avg. Satisfaction	4.2	♥
Growth	2.9%	📈
More Attributes ▼		

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What is a Choreographer?

A Choreographer is a specialized type of [Performer \(/careers/performer/\)](#). Also known as: [Dance Composer \(/careers/choreographer/aka/dance-composer/\)](#), [Dance Choreographer \(/careers/choreographer/aka/dance-choreographer/\)](#).

Choreography is an artistic opportunity to express one's personality through the creation of dance. A choreographer designs and directs routines used in dances and performances. They love movement and the art of dance, but most of all love to inspire others by sharing their creative ideas.

What does a Choreographer do?

A career in choreography can be fun and fulfilling. A great deal of time is spent inventing, editing, and practicing routines in order to ensure that they meet the appropriate level of professionalism and provide entertainment for audiences and judges.

A large part of a choreographer's job is to make sure that the routine is pleasurable not only for the participants but for the audience and possibly judges, too. He or she must listen intently to the piece of music that is being used, and work out the timing and the feel of the different dance steps. A lot of time is spent inventing new dance moves and editing routines. They also work very closely with the [dancers \(/careers/dancer/\)](#), teaching them by example and by spoken instruction.

A choreographer may spend weeks or months providing direction and encouragement to the dancers, directing practice, inventing and arranging the choreography, and of course making the necessary changes and tweaks to perfect the dance. Needless to say, there is endless practice involved. A choreographer needs to make sure that the dance is perfect for the audience to see.

Choreographers teach more than just dance steps, they also help [actors \(/careers/actor/\)](#) and [singers \(/careers/singer/\)](#) develop their characters, selecting rhythm and pacing to enhance their performances. Most celebrities have a choreographer to create their signature visual image. This makes them a huge influence on every aspect of the mainstream spotlight. Choreographers need to have a very keen sense of who they are as an artist, and also what their target audience needs to see.

Find your perfect career

Would you make a good choreographer? Sokanu's free assessment reveals how compatible you are with a career across 5 dimensions!

30% MATCH?

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What is the workplace of a Choreographer like?

Choreographers are found in an array of positions around the world. Many are instructors at schools or universities. Some expert choreographers run their own [business \(/degrees/business/\)](#) as freelancers. Some create dance routines for [music \(/degrees/music/\)](#) videos and films. They are even used to create routines for cheerleading and skating competitions.

Videos

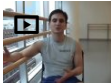


[Interview With 'Glee' Choreographer Zach Woodlee / Master Talent Teachers](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQsvu97qLw0)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQsvu97qLw0>

[Broadway Choreographer Michele Lynch](#)[TAKE THE FREE CAREER TEST](#)



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0XevPAS5p94>



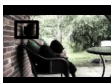
[Becoming a Choreographer: Avi Scher's New Piece W NYCB's Sara Mearns & ABT's Marcelo Gomes](#)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3HmyBfGxB8>



[How to Become a Hip-Hop Choreographer | Hip-Hop Dance](#)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y30WQwGvYsU>



[Christopher Wheeldon - Becoming A Choreographer](#)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9pJUwqpl0yQ>



[DancePulp: Annabella Lopez Ochoa: The Business Of Being A Freelance Choreographer](#)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLS4BHHX7DM>



[The Choreographer \(Career Guides\)](#)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5BO0H-v5Rs>

Jobs

Location
E.g. San Francisco, CA
Search
Title
Youth Programs - Youth Dance Instructor (Ballet, Hip Hop and Other Dance Styles) (https://www.ziprecruiter.com/c/lyca-of-metropolitan-l-a-00000000-youth-programs-youth-dance-clk=Z2KpshI2HsVDoVg9ZS75gOiw4huEAGkGMLa6ixcG4T7W95UKkvVJ2-X6ZtaF0Yah5u-6CLQBZ_s1cX1IsK9TOqLuneHslOM_6s1X2niwqhjHiYHIPbj7epKVOYPCZRQtlUFyPI9nVuxLe5P4V7XnWvNtdl9GUXR5_wtsMWXGxTxk0A6mJzV3pBQOZAAssK9C66o8ncQgsYP7DbWmQ342o3vVn3dda3Dqexsf577LIRllgUyKlWwZTO98pXD4Xe9iXTAO1MztoYy6gJrwhspisrNAK2FvZuCEsYQzaHYgxZWdHc5weL5swgRTvYeZJ7Vwn2vQJQsCUfGS392_-0f5sRkhNQVZCLkw0EiOv8UYdpJC6xqXW-j-ZPL1_Fab1LmA8Xjg2eHLalVxLDI7J1QLOh0LFoZicAQil)
Group Exercise Instructor - Per Diem (https://www.ziprecruiter.com/c/loyola-marymount-university-00000000-group-exercise-instructor-per-diem-b212414360?clk=dEeH6-JtPI4-tiHrX2QGT_9my8WxOhuwHjzU2QWONLluArAgyot2Qdouzpm-QuTPpEWlg9xliud9as5d9eUwSPlyA5I3e5deTpOIGogimyBFDnFY7DYC_HMKB0fkW51Mil.97baBSKaVuGC5sRe4kH3P53P49JReOhOFB-Xfi-a6schGApLA4Qp7KQpLHiJbgJG_RLT3uOrD2GvINWAKoQ02HDWCH_8DumCKBwmaPfUdtqz_Fg-9dfbz2y4AL4RjN5efULng8JgjoZ4oExf0ueVxj1kwCAbOgQnpb.sj5UECP4PkjE4ng.9fa775fd83eb6993b699c4f977e717a9)
Part-Time Lecturer in Dance (Hip Hop) (https://www.ziprecruiter.com/c/lyca-of-southern-california-00000000-part-time-lecturer-in-dance-hip-hop-b211812353?clk=KfUnhj2nBK7Z2PgxUhtSizfGA_R75Dyn3fb3xWZVVjg98pB2GqJIT2cWwlaK66p1Ik3fTuJVQgwDa4wnUfp8He5u744cT4H2bjYmgBgMXyl55QvICLnrc3yzskQUaTdnrslwxiMGOehRmPylsDDmUO20wDSEAggA4v7_9fgzQoimQQ3u5yMLPognxBKLzrCS9uWHFJqoFHSdRT39bWPHGyhnvnlKPJPahQktTFJONMdgobdoboTmlWQKJ85j3WmNOYUCL_CLOCeZng8UKn3k4jDvU4qn1mktojem_DjptNicD5yhKfR6zDc8JWVQSJ8552W96d4czsAQ8cV4a6Lh2rn50F6HnkZD5JW8W-su1416U_XiO0BN5YhzoR4UNPn6del)
YMCA is looking for Zumba Instructors (experience required) (https://www.ziprecruiter.com/c/lyca-of-orange-county-00000000-ymca-is-looking-for-zumba-instructors-experience-70AXg6anFuf_p1D4Ghxz8bqBhsbnBylSmTrVDn4CPSPdVvQLF9LWYS7njtZZygOx6wg3K6BAR7Rk5mbtpRrXa3D6mXlnLeMWV49f6EJddHQYI1_nzBsqJy2dxMiapYQxAVUQ_uK8kGrFsl7c7K7D7nBhKzSQYn7v18FYcLhdgW4jaiNsRgLYa-OCaJneOo_gJ6-v_aCqU_ej62WKaWHI1YDBB6igJtJ_nuwzbFSaFtrvRnKJbLlpmervUr9QBBYg-xLE59Fvqcusu3PkiV_vwLmoCd4RGPBpzvgQwPk5528TwwkKRZapGw31vQKxxWleCke9QYgVjJTI1vTLFB4HeAmA0myxg8fBhaV7np_47ixadkd8CYcJnWf4h7dZrj4X1dluHLLouqE-AVkbzFJS4nLQ2H-Div6kZMOe9)
Chief Communications Officer (https://www.ziprecruiter.com/c/american-film-institute-e95d525d-chief-communications-officer-bd023ada1?clk=Hqpk26AnY4VxYCKwHvFthUGMO_M4YM7ywSSHvsNF9uENipEV_2CcAK4wePgHtPVMCNhpgE11BRP56dQOI_uzbm8gAXbzW0HjfigM8hPX3PfpXPEVHl5sDgw90QoitVAYFAvYMXy5rZOR2mLzjg0uXfFvMaFU9hxFSHHf_mwnkPSPDW1UloEOEYg2QuheWqkMzG5aifvy1H1fUUTzvVpHalo8ALCPrpww0bfQz7Sgwr-rXfzafOIFF7JqEIP2gR43_FkAH92BKf7JbK3C8bZNRGMl8PC324WBJ3ynQ41JmmXyixCqVbWdWZHZyl5scrhvd1P1rvr3tqZPxr8WCV71_wJKQdtg_Qg6mukW5H-gnskdYfYUpDtmMcQYX5iWxwP82gkiSBOWRP9CRxARcAuKXYI_n7eb841a4f76b00cb8f31e305ae6a3dbb)

[More Choreographer Jobs \(/careers/choreographer/jobs/\)](#)

[Job Search by ZipRecruiter \(/https://www.ziprecruiter.com/jobs\)](#)

Further Reading

- [Dancer And Choreographer](#) (<http://www.careergirls.org/resources/how-do-i-do-this/dancer-and-choreographer>) [www.careergirls.org](#)
Choreographers create new dances. They may also add changes to older dances. Some teach dancers to get the results they want. They may also audition dancers for a particular production.
- [A Day In The Life Of Dancer And Choreographer Justin Peck](#) (<http://www.pointemagazine.com/issues/augustseptember-2013/day-life-dancer-and-choreographer-justin-peck>) [www.pointemagazine.com](#)
"The days when I'm choreographing, and rehearsing a dance part, and then performing at night—you can get a little glazed over," he says.
- [How to Become a Professional Choreographer Read more : http://www.ehow.com/how_2082795_become-professional-choreographer.html](#) (http://www.ehow.com/how_2082795_become-professional-choreographer.html) [www.ehow.com](#)
The best way to succeed in becoming a professional choreographer is to develop dancing skills and combine them with leadership, communication, artistic talents and creativity.
- [Stage Coach](#) (<http://www.theguardian.com/money/2008/may/31/workandcareers3>) [www.theguardian.com](#)
Stori James, choreographer for the musical Dirty Dancing at the Aldwych Theatre, London.
- [A Day In The Life: With Teacher And Choreographer David Fernandez](#) (<http://www.dance-enthusiast.com/features/day-in-the-life/view/A-Day-in-the-Life-With-Teacher-and-Choreographer-David-Fernandez-including-Dance-Enthusiast-Minute-Video-2012-02-22>) [www.dance-enthusiast.com](#)
David Fernandez, a New Yorker, originally from Mexico City, is not only a highly regarded and well-loved teacher, but he is also a talented international choreographic artist. Fernandez brings virtuosity, lightening speed and wit to the ballet. And,ps, dancers love him.

Similar Careers



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[\(/careers/actor/\)](#)



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[\(/careers/television-show-host/\)](#)



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Charming, independent, energetic and compassionate, the ENFP will spend a lot of time exploring what's right for them. When they finally find their place in the world, they are likely to produce amazing results. [Read More](#) [\(/careers/collections/enfp-careers/\)](#)

Find your perfect career

Would you make a good choreographer? Sokanu's free assessment reveals how compatible you are with a career across 5 dimensions!

42% MATCH?

[Take the free career test](#)

Career Attributes		?
Avg. US Salary	\$49,898	\$
Employment	6,900	👤
Avg. Satisfaction	4.2	♥
Growth	2.9%	📈
Education Level		High School Diploma
Most Common Degree		Fine Arts
Required Cognitive Ability		🔒
Ease of Gaining Employment		🔒



What does a Choreographer do?



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Get greater functionality to narrow down your career search:

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-  Career Attributes and Filters

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- | | |
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Salary information

How important is money? Whatever your answer is, sokanu has great information for you. See career salary ranges based on location, experience and more.

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| Radiologist salary (/careers/radiologist/salary/) | Paralegal salary (/careers/paralegal/salary/) |

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Find your perfect career then find real job positions to really kick things off. We provide job listings for most careers through our partners.

- | | |
|---|--|
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| Firefighter jobs (/jobs/?careers=11) | Pilot jobs (/jobs/?careers=100) |
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